

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please add the following claims:

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- 20. A method for affixing micro- and/or nano- objects, which are contained in a liquid, onto a support, said method using a dispenser including a plurality of conically narrowing ducts having relatively wider inlets and relatively narrower outlets, wherein the ducts are, at least at their outlets, capillaries, wherein each of the outlets are sized to prevent passage of more than one of the objects at a time, and wherein each of the plurality of ducts includes a portion of the liquid containing the objects, said method comprising the steps of:

transporting the objects in each of the plurality of ducts in the direction of the corresponding outlets until one object emerges from each of the outlets;

positioning the outlets adjacent to the support;

depositing one object from each of the outlets onto the support; and

affixing the deposited objects to the support.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step of transporting includes applying a pressure difference between the inlet and outlet in each of the plurality of ducts.

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22. The method according to claim 20, wherein said steps of positioning, depositing and affixing take place in a simultaneous manner.

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23. The method according to claim 20, further comprising the step of:

adjusting the positioning of the objects on the support prior to said step of affixing the deposited objects to the support.

24. The method according to claim 20, further comprising the step of:

covering the support with a chemically reactive layer, prior to said steps of depositing and affixing.

25. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step of affixing includes electrostatically affixing the deposited objects to the support.

26. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step of affixing includes photochemically affixing the deposited objects to the support.

27. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step of affixing includes affixing by micro-mechanical means the deposited objects to the support.

28. The method according to claim 20, further comprising the step of:

(b3) magnetizing the objects, prior to said step of depositing, and wherein said step of affixing includes magnetically affixing the deposited objects to the support.

29. The method according to claim 20, further comprising the step of:

covering the deposited and affixed objects with a layer of gel.

30. The method according to claim 20, wherein the objects are charged electrostatically with a same polarity.

31. The method according to claim 30, wherein the support is charged electrostatically with an opposite polarity relative to the objects.

32. The method according to claim 20, wherein the objects dispersed in the liquid of one of the plurality of ducts are coated with a first type of biological-chemical active substance; and wherein the objects dispersed in the liquid of another of the plurality of ducts are coated with a second and different type of biological-chemical active substance.

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33. The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of:

detecting nucleotide sequences using the deposited objects.

34. The method according to claim 33, wherein said step of detecting includes:

applying a test liquid to the deposited objects on the support; and

evaluating any chemical reactions which occur.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein said step of evaluating includes noting any change in color or fluorescence properties.

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36. An apparatus for fixing micro- and/or nano- objects, which are contained in a liquid onto a support, said apparatus comprising:

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a positioning head including at least one depositing cell, said at least one depositing cell including a bundle-like arrangement of conically narrowing ducts with relatively wider inlets and relatively narrower outlets, wherein the ducts are, at least at their outlets, capillaries, and wherein the outlets are sized to prevent passage of more than one of the objects at a time, each tube capable of containing a portion of the liquid having a plurality of the objects;

a support; and

at least one actuator for causing relative movement between said positioning cell and said support.

37. The apparatus according to claim 36, wherein said at least one depositing cell includes at least one distancing piece firmly affixed to and extending outwardly from said outlets, such that said at least one depositing cell and said support are positioned

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w relative to each other at a distance predefined by a length of said
at least one distancing piece.--